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(54) Method for actualizing a pause/cancel function in video on demand systems.

*Summary*

This invention, as it is about a method for actualizing a pause/cancel function in a video on demand system that forms multiple users requesting the same program service into one group and services the programs in the above mentioned group unit, has the effect of providing the user a pause/cancel function without consuming transmission rate or transmission line of the VOD server by providing a pause/cancel actualization method in the video on demand system that is comprised of step 1 in which when a particular user registered in the above group requests a pause of the above program service, the above user's registration from the above mentioned group is canceled and the time of the moment that the above mentioned program service is stopped is stored; step 2 in which when the above mentioned user requests a cancellation of the pause in the above mentioned program service, the time information stored in the above mentioned step 1 is searched; step 3 which searches for a group with a service duration closest to the above mentioned searched time information; and step 4 in which the above mentioned user is registered to the above mentioned searched group.

*Representative Drawing**Figure 1**Specifications**Brief Description of the Drawings*

Figure 1 is a block diagram of a video on demand system suitable for applying the method of actualizing a pause/cancel function in video on demand systems in this invention.

Figure 2 is a detailed flow chart that illustrates the process of the method of actualizing a pause/cancel function in video on demand systems in this invention.

&lt;Explanation of codes used in the major sections of the drawings&gt;

100: Set top unit	200: Network Administrator
300: VOD Server	310: Service Administrator
320: Service Data Storage	330: Service Information Storage
340: Service Timer	

*Detailed Explanation of the Invention*

*Goal of the Invention*

*The technical field that the invention falls under and existing techniques.*

This invention, as a method of actualizing a service provided to the user from the VOD system's Video server, is more specifically about a method for actualizing random access in video on demand systems more suitable for actualizing a pause/cancel function in the VOD server in a group unit program service format that used to be supported separately per user (that is set top unit) unit.

Recently, in accordance with sudden growth in the semiconductor and information/communication industry, the high speed information/communication infrastructure that started as a super highway concept is quickly spreading and the desire of users to receive information in an active bidirectional method as opposed to simply receiving information in a passive way is increasing. As one way of satisfying this trend, development of interactive cable television (I-CATV), an evolved form of cable television which has already been commercialized and largely distributed, is being accelerated by prominent companies throughout the world including Korea, the United States, Japan, etc.

On one hand, using interactive cable television service technology based on the digital format as opposed to an analog format, makes video on demand (VOD) services possible in which the television viewer can be provided with the desired information (example: video information, etc.) immediately at the desired times. Making this type of video on demand service possible requires information providers comprised of large capacity servers capable of storing the information as well as transmitting it; service providers such as television studios, delivery systems providers that can simultaneously transmit information requested from service providers through the network to multitudes of television users in high speed, and television users who use or utilize service information provided by the delivery system providers.

Services that are possible through video on demand as explained above include examples such as Movies on Demand (MOD); NOD (News on Demand) in which information can be received immediately sorted by news titles or subject as well as services such as news summaries or headlines, etc; remote shopping which shows the user image catalogs of goods that the user desires to purchase or provides image service formats in which the user looks through the display; remote medical diagnosis service that provides a service wherein x-ray images are transmitted and the end user stores or analyzes the transmitted data and transmits the prescription to another end user; games; home banking that provides general bank related services, video conferencing; negotiation services which provide information to users so that the user can use the provided information for transactions; and internet access services for internet connections.

The MOD service here is directly related to this invention and provides home VCR like services, for example: selection of particular program service, cancellation, start, stop, pause, high speed playback, and rewind, of program information such as movies from the provider through the network.

On one hand, in order to realize the VOD service, the user requests service of the desired program such as English or English conversation programs from the remote VOD server by manipulating the set top unit and the VOD server outputs from the database the video and audio data (that is the bit stream of the video, audio, text, etc, mixture) of the corresponding program in response to such a set top and transmits it to the requested user's set top unit.

At this time, the program data that is being provided to the user's set top unit from the VOD server in response to the user's request takes the form of a MPEG bit stream that has been compressed and coded into a prescribed bit rate and the set top unit decodes the received coded program data to its original signal and displays it.

On other hand, in a typical VOD server system when there is a request for a particular program from a particular user, the corresponding program is read from a storage block that stores various program information and is provided to the receiving service requesting user (that is the set top unit) through a transmission channel, and at this time because the maximum transmission rate from the storage block, that

is the greatest bit rate that can be read from the storage block per second, is decided by the capacity of the server system, the larger the capacity of the server the more useful the VOD service will be.

However, even if a large capacity server has been established, in the case of excessive service requests by users, that is in the case when the service requests exceed the maximum transmission rate, a time delay (that is transmission delay) caused by excessive user service requests is unavoidable. In light of this, while increasing the capacity of the server system may alleviate the transmission delay caused by excessive service requests to a degree, increasing the capacity of the server system has a practical limitation and cannot be called a fundamental solution.

In addition, because increasing the capacity of the server system has the result of increasing service costs, it cannot be considered a desirable outcome in light of VOD server business considerations.

Accordingly, group unit program service techniques are being used currently to increase the service efficiency in server systems with identical capacities.

That is, a technique is being used wherein rather than providing the program service when there is a service request for a particular program from a user, they are put on standby for a prescribed duration (example: 30 seconds, 1 minute, etc.), the multitude of users requesting the same program are formed as one group during that duration, and the corresponding programs (that is the program that has been requested) is transmitted to that one group unit.

On one hand, in a server system that uses group unit program service technique, when a particular user requests a pause of the program service while receiving the program service, the server system cancels the registration of the particular user requesting the pause of the program service from the group and then provides a separate program service.

Accordingly, in currently used server systems, when the data transmission rate or transmission line of the VOD server is consumed for each of the user requesting a pause of the program service while receiving a program service, there has been a problem with the server system's supply efficiency (maximum number of acceptable users) decreasing when there are more users requesting a pause of the program service.

#### *The Technological Task This Invention Attempts to Accomplish*

The aim of this invention is to solve the above mentioned problem, it has the goal of providing a pause/cancel function in the video on demand system wherein when a particular user who has been receiving the particular program through the group unit requests a pause of the program, the pause is realized by cancelling that user's registration from the group unit, and when that user requests cancellation of the pause, allowing the paused program service to resume by registering the user to a group that is closest to the point when the user requested the pause of the program service.

In order to achieve the above mentioned goal, this invention in its method of forming one group of multiple users requesting service of an identical program and actualizing a pause/cancel function of the video on demand system servicing the program requested by the above mentioned group unit provides a method for actualizing a pause/cancel function in video on demand systems that is comprised of: step 1, in which when a particular user registered in the above group requests a pause of the above program service the above user's registration from the above mentioned group is canceled and the time of the moment that the above mentioned program service is stopped is stored; step 2, in which when the above mentioned user requests a cancellation of the pause in the above mentioned program service, the time information stored in the above mentioned step 1 is searched; step 3, which searches for a group with a service duration closest to the above mentioned searched time information; and step 4, in which the above mentioned user is registered to the above mentioned searched group.

#### *The Makeup and Effect of the Invention*

The following is a detailed explanation of the video on demand operator administration system and its operating process in accordance with the desirable application of this invention using the attached figure 1 and figure 2 as a reference.

Figure 1 is a block diagram of a video on demand system suitable for a video on demand system pause/cancel function actualization method. In accordance with this invention and figure 2 is a detailed flow chart illustrating the video on demand system's pause/cancel function actualization process in this invention.

Firstly, in referencing figure 1, a video on demand system suitable for applying the video on demand system's pause/cancel function actualization method in accordance with the video on demand system in this invention is comprised of multiple set top units (100), network administrator (200), and VOD server (300) and the makeup and function of each part is as follows.

Firstly, the set top unit, through user manipulation, (100) requests the desired service of a program (for example, movies, English conversation program, etc.) from the remote VOD server (300) as well as requesting pause/cancel of the program service and displays it after restoring the program data received from the VOD server (300) to its original signal before it was encoded. At this time, the program data being provided by the VOD server (300) takes the form of an MPEG bit stream that has been compressed and encoded to a prescribed bit rate.

The network administrator (200) provides the various signals being requested from the various set top units (100) to the VOD server (300) and transmits the program data being provided by the VOD server (300) to one or more particular set top units (100) in accordance with the service information being provided by the VOD server (300).

The VOD server (300) includes the service administrator (310), service data storage (320), service information storage (330), as well as the service timer (340) and provides the requested program service (that is the consecutive or random transmission of the program data) to the multiple set top units (100) when a request for program service has been confirmed by the multiple set top units (100) by the network administrator (200) through the execution of the functions of each of the parts as well as executing the pause and cancellation of the program service if it has been requested by the set top unit (100). At this time, the separate functions of the service administrator (310) that is included in the VOD server (300), the service data storage (320), the service information storage (330), the service timer (340), and the image storage (350) are as follows.

Firstly, the service administrator (310) while designating the multiple set top units (100) requesting program service as per group of set top units (200) requesting the identical program in the pre established timeframe and providing information about the designated particular group to the network administrator (200), it controls the service data storage (320) so that the program data requested by that particular group is transmitted to the network administrator.

In addition, while storing the information about each of the particular groups in the service information storage (320), it controls the service timer (340) so that the duration of the program service in progress per each group is measured.

And, when a pause request signal has been confirmed from the particular set top unit (100) through the network administrator (200), the registration of that particular set top unit (100) is canceled from the particular group in which that particular set top unit (100) is included, and while the updated information is provided to the network administrator (200), the time information of the program service section whose registration has been canceled is stored in the service information storage (330).

Additionally, if the set top unit (100) that requested a pause of the program service requests a cancellation of the pause of the program service, a search is conducted for the time information (information about the

time when registration was cancelled from a particular group receiving the program service) of the paused program service section stored in the service information storage (330) and a group closest to that searched time information is searched for in the service timer (340). In addition, a judgment is made as to if that searched group reaches the progress time based on the searched time information, that is the standard time (progress time) of the temporarily stopped program service section, and if that group reaches the progress time based on the searched time information, registers the ID of the user requesting the pause of the program service to that group ID and while providing that updated group information to the network administrator (200), stores it in the service information storage (330).

On one hand, program data regarding multiple video files that are to be provided to the set top unit (100) are stored in the service data storage (320) and the prescribed program data is transmitted to the network administrator (200) by the service administrator's (310) control.

The service information storage (330) temporarily stores the various group IDs, the various user IDs included in each of the group IDs, and the program IDs corresponding to each of the group ID as well as storing the ID of the user requesting pause and the information about the section of the program that has been paused (progress time or standard time).

The service timer (340), through control by the service administrator (310) holds various program IDs, one or more group IDs that correspond to each of the program ID, and a table comprised of the program service progress times of each of the group IDs. That is, it measures the program service being provided per each group ID.

The following is a detailed explanation of the video on demand system's random access actualization method in accordance with the desirable application of this invention centered on figure 2 and referencing figure 1.

Firstly, when a prescribed set top unit (100) confirms a VOD connection signal to the network administrator (200), the network administrator (200) connects the set top unit (100) confirming the connection signal with the serviced administrator (310) of the VOD server (300).

After that, the service administrator (310) using the network administrator (200) as the medium checks the ID of users using the set top unit (100) and allows the user to choose the program they want to receive by providing a program list (that is a list of programs in consideration of the user ID's viewing level) corresponding to that checked user ID, and the user uses the set top unit (100) to choose any one of the programs (program that they want to receive) being provided by the service administrator (310).

When program service is requested from multiple users using the above mentioned process (S 10), the service administrator (310) forms one group of various user IDs requesting the identical program during a pre established standby time (for example: 30 seconds, 60 seconds...etc.), and gives a group ID for that formed group.

After that, the service administrator (310) provides information regarding the newly formed group (that is the group ID, one or more user IDs included in that group ID, and ID's of programs that are to be transmitted to each of those user IDs) to the network administrator (200) and while controlling the service data storage (320) so that the programs requested by the users included in that group are transmitted to the network administrator (200), stores the information regarding that group (group ID, one or more user IDs included in that group ID, program ID) in the service information storage (330). (S 20)

The service data storage (320) is controlled by the service administrator (310) and provides the program data with the prescribed program ID to the network administrator (200).

In addition, the network administrator (200) verifies the various user IDs corresponding to the group ID by referencing the group information provided by the service administrator (320) and transmits the program data provided by the service data storage (320) to each of the set top units (100) corresponding that that user ID.

The program data that is being provided to the set top unit (100) by the network administrator (200) is provided by the VOD server (300) in an MPEG bit stream that has been compressed and encoded as a prescribed bit rate and is displayed by the set top unit after being restored to the original signal prior to being encoded. (S 30) At this time, the service administrator (310) provides information about the corresponding group ( ) to the information service timer (340) and simultaneously controls the service timer (340) to count the progress time of the service being provided so that the progress of the service being provided to that group ID corresponding to the group ID corresponding to the program ID is measured.

If a user viewing the prescribed video being displayed by the set top unit (100) manipulates the set top unit in order to pause the program service, transmits a random pause signal to the service administrator (310) by way of the network administrator (200). (S 40)

A service administrator (310) that receives a random access signal from a prescribed set top unit (100) searches the group information stored in the service storage (330) in step S 20 and cancels the registration of the user ID from the group ID that the user ID corresponding to that set up unit is registered to. That is, the group information that is stored in the service information storage (330) is renewed and that renewed group information is provided again to the network administrator (200). At this time, the various IDs, various user IDs included in each of the group IDs, and the program IDs corresponding to each of the group IDs are temporarily stored in the service information storage (330) as illustrated in figure 4.

At the same time, the ID of users requesting the pause and the section of the program service that has been paused by a pause request from that user ID, that is the time information of that service section is stored in a different section (a section different from the section that stores the various group information) of the service information storage (330).

On one hand, the network administrator (200) stops transmission of the program data to the set top unit (100) corresponding to the ID of the user whose registration to the group ID has been canceled by referencing the group information, that is the updated group information, transmitted by the service administrator (310). (S50)

If a pause cancellation signal is provided by the set top unit (100) that has transmitted the pause signal by way of the network administrator (200) while the program service has been stopped for a particular user as in step S 50 (S 60), the service administrator (200) searches for the time information of the program service section that has been paused, that is the time information corresponding to the ID of the user requesting the pause, from the service information storage (330) (S 70) and after referencing the time information measured by the service timer (340), searches for a group ID closest to the time information checked in step S 70. That is, it searches for a group that is closest to the time wherein the service progress time corresponds to the image selection signal amongst the groups receiving transmission of the identical program as the group that includes the ID of the user requesting the pause. (S 80)

After that, the service administrator (310) is provided the time information from the service timer (340) and assesses whether the service progress time of the closest group ID searched for in step S 80 matches the time searched for in step S 70. That is, it assesses whether the progress time of the program service being provided to the closest group in the searched group reaches the time information stored in step S 50 (time information of the paused program section) (S 90).

As a result of the assessment in step S 90, if the service progress time of the closest group ID searched for in S 80 matches the time searched for in step S 70, the ID of the user requesting the pause is registered to that group ID and information about the group to which that user ID is registered is provided to the network administrator (200) so that the program is transmitted to the set top unit (100) corresponding to the ID of the user requesting pause cancellation starting from the section that the user requested pause (S 100). At this time, the group information that has been stored in the service information storage (330) will be stored in a format updated by the service administrator (310).

### *Effect of the invention*

According to this invention, it has the effect of providing a pause/cancel function to the user without consuming the VOD server's transmission rate or transmission line.

### *(57) Scope of Claims*

#### *Claim 1*

In regards to a method of forming one group of multiple users requesting service of an identical program and actualizing a pause/cancel function in the video on demand system that services a program requested by the above mentioned group unit, a video on demand system pause/cancel function actualization method that is comprised of

step 1 in which when a particular user registered to the above mentioned group requests pause of the above mentioned program service, the above mentioned user's registration to the above mentioned group is cancelled and the time information of the moment when the above mentioned program service is stopped is stored;

step 2 in which when the above mentioned user requests cancellation of the pause in the above mentioned program service, the time information stored in the above mentioned step 2 is searched;

step 3 in which a search is conducted for a group with a service progress time closest to the above mentioned searched time information;

step 4 in which the above mentioned user is registered to the above mentioned searched group.

#### *Figures*

*Figure 1*

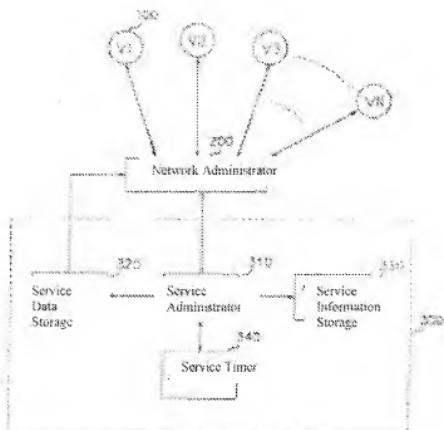
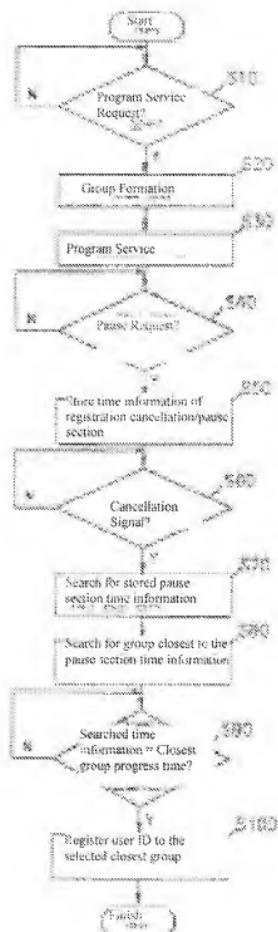


Figure 2





후세를 증가하고 있는 이용자의 평균적인 활동과 행동방향을 알 수 있다. 이를 통해 개인별로 차별화된 개인화된 서비스를 제공하는 데 활용된다.

방법이 이루어져야 하는 기술적 고려

### 발달의 구조 및 과정

네트워크 콘솔러(200)는 다음의 조건을  
갖는(100) 모니터링 제공자를  
선택하는 알고리즘을 사용합니다.  
서비스 세션(300)로부터 제공되는 정보를  
이용하여 하드웨어 및 이상의  
상황에 대처할 때(200)에  
YOD 서비스 세션(300)로부터 제공되는  
정보를 그대로 활용합니다.

또한, 서비스 대여와 저 장부(320)에는 셋을 유통(100)에 제공하기 위한 다수 정의된 표준화된 데이터가 저 장부에 있어야 한다. 서비스 판권자(310)의 제공에 있어 표준화된 데이터가 저 장부에 있어야 한다.

서비스 데이터 저장부(320)는 서비스 관리자(310)의 제어에 의하여, 소량의 대량의 데이터를 관리자(200)에게 제공합니다.

제작자(310)에 대한 관심은 1990년 대비 2000년에는 100% 증가한 반면, 소비자(100)는 1990년 대비 2000년에는 40% 감소한 것으로 나타난다.

2002년 10월 10일 저녁에 출판된 『한국의 민족학자들』(한국민족학회)에는 저자의 글이 실려 있다. 저자는 이 책을 통해 민족학자들이 민족학이라는 학제를 통해 민족학을 확장하고자 노력하는 모습을 소개하면서, 그들이 그동안 노력해온 학제적 노력의 성과를 인정하는 바이다.

S 50 단계에서와 같이 평생 사용자에 대한 프로그램 서비스가 통일된 형태에서, 헤론우라 페리자(2001)를

제작자는 그의 작품을 통해 독자를 향유하게 하는 데에만 그치지 않고, 그 작품을 통해 독자를 독서에 대한 즐거움을 찾도록 독려하는 역할을 하기도 한다. 예술가의 작품은 그 자체로 예술로서의 가치를 지니지만, 그 작품을 통해 독자가 예술을 통해 즐거움을 찾을 수 있는 기회를 제공하는 것은 예술가의 책임이다. 예술가의 작품은 그 자체로 예술로서의 가치를 지니지만, 그 작품을 통해 독자가 예술을 통해 즐거움을 찾을 수 있는 기회를 제공하는 것은 예술가의 책임이다.

제 선택 진로에 대응하는 시간과 재료로 고정된 그림을 정해한다( S 89).

## 방법과 결과

본 발명은 디지털 VOD 서비스의 접속을 위한 전송 대역의 소모를 사용자에게 알지 않기 위해 기능을 제공할 수 있는 효과가 있다.

## (57) 출구의 필요

## 증명장 1

증명 1 프로그램에 대한 서비스를 요구하는 디지털 사용자를 하나의 그룹으로 정성하고, 상기 그룹 단위로 요구하는 프로그램을 서비스하는 주문형 비디오 서비스에서의 일시 경지/해제 기능 구현 방법에 있어서,

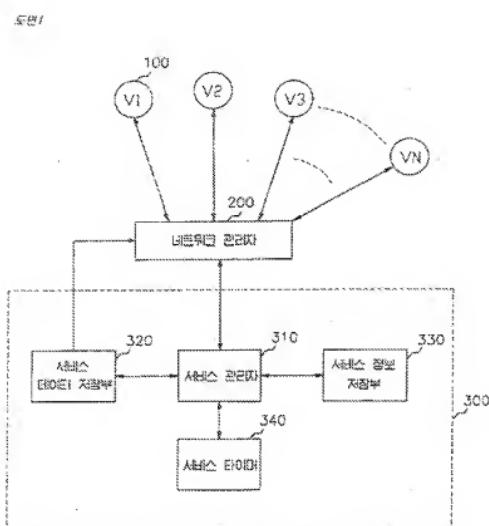
상기 그룹에 등록된 특정 사용자가 프로그램 서비스에 대한 일시 경지를 요구하면 상기 그룹에서 상기 사용자를 통해 해당하고 상기 프로그램 서비스에 대한 일시 경보를 저장하는 제 1 단계;

상기 사용자로부터 상기 프로그램 서비스에 대한 일시 경지를 해제하도록 요구하면 상기 제 1 단계에게 저장한 시간 경보를 검색하는 제 2 단계;

상기 경보에 해당하는 일시 경보에 따른 서비스 진행 시간을 찾는 그룹을 검색하는 제 3 단계;

상기 검색된 일시 경보에 따른 서비스 진행 시간을 찾은 그룹을 검색하는 제 4 단계;

## 도면 1



卷之三

